

REMINISCENCES OF COLONEL BAIR

Editor Standard: In 1860 I was living in Farmington, Ill., where Abraham Lincoln's father is buried. It was there that I first met Abraham Lincoln. I saw him a number of times and talked with him. I cast my first vote for him for president in November 1860. I was twenty-three years old at that time. While I was living at Farmington I got acquainted with a Frenchman who was called Father Chiniquy. He told me he had come to the United States from Quebec, Canada. He said he was in poor circumstances at that time, and that Abraham Lincoln had assisted him a number of times, and that he was going to do all that he possibly could to help elect Lincoln president of the United States. He said "I believe that, that man Abraham Lincoln will be inspired by God to save this nation from destruction." He said these were numbers in Europe that would do everything possible to destroy this republic.

After Lincoln was elected president, Chiniquy went to Washington, D. C. I met Chiniquy in Washington. In April, 1864, and talked with him a number of times. He told me that he was afraid that the president would be assassinated and said the president is constantly surrounded with spies not only from the south but from France and other countries. After the assassination of President Lincoln, Father Chiniquy wrote a history of his visits to the president and of the plot to murder him. I have a copy of Father Chiniquy's story, which I submit to the reader. Concerning the assassination of President Lincoln, Chiniquy says:

"At the end of August, 1864, having known for a long time that there was a plot to assassinate the president, I thought it was my duty to go and tell the president what I knew, at the same time giving him a new assurance of my gratitude for what he had done for me in the past. Knowing that I was among those who were waiting in the ante-chamber, he sent immediately for me. 'I am so glad to meet you again,' he said. 'I am sorry to have so little time to see you, but I will not let you go before telling you that a few days ago I saw Mr. Morse, the learned inventor of the electric telegraph. He told me that when he was in Rome not long ago he found out the proofs of a most formidable conspiracy against this country and all of its institutions. It is evident that it is to the intrigues and emissaries of Europe that we owe in great part the horrible civil war which is covering this country with blood and ruin.' The president said: 'Man must not care where and when he will die. But I may add today that I have a presentiment that God will call me to Him through the hand of an assassin. Let His will and not mine be done.' He then looked at his watch and said: 'I am sorry that the twenty minutes have almost passed away. I will be forever grateful for the warm words you have addressed to me about the dangers ahead of my life for I know they are not imaginary dangers. Please accept my sincere thanks for the new lights you have given me on the dangers of my position and come again. I will always see you with a new pleasure.'

"The last time I went to pay my respects to the doomed president and to warn him against the impending danger which I knew was threatening him, when he was absolutely besieged by the people who wanted to see him. The only thought which seemed to occupy the mind of the president was the dangers that surrounded him, he said to me: 'You are the first to warn me against the dangers of assassination. Let me tell you that I have lately read a passage in the Old Testament which has made a profound and I hope a salutary impression on me. Here is that passage: 'The president took his Bible, opened at the third chapter of Deuteronomy, and read from the 22nd to the 28th verse: '22. Ye shall not fear them, for the Lord your God shall fight for you.'"

"23. And I besought the Lord at that time, saying:

"O Lord, God, Thou hast begun to show Thy servant Thy greatness and Thy mighty hand for what God is there in heaven or in the earth that can do according to Thy works and according to Thy might."

"25. I pray Thee, let me go over and see the good land that is beyond the Jordan, that goodly mountain and Lebanon."

"26. But God was wroth with me for your sake and would not hear me; and the Lord said unto me, Let it suffice thee; speak no more unto me of this matter."

"27. Get thee up into the top of Pisgah; and lift up thine eyes westward and northward and southward, and eastward, and behold with thine eyes; for thou shalt not go over this Jordan." After the president had read these words with great solemnity, he added: 'My dear Father Chiniquy, let me tell you that I have read these strange words several times, these last five or six weeks. The more I read them the more it seems to me that God has written for me as well as for Moses. The only two favors I ask of the Lord are, first, that I may die for the sacred cause in which I am engaged, and when I am the standard-bearer of the rights and liberties of my country. The second favor I ask of God is that my dear son, Robert, when I am gone, will be one of those who will lift up that flag of liberty which will cover my tomb, and carry it with honor and fidelity to the end of his life as his father did.'

"Never have I heard such sublime words, so solemn and so prophetic as the face of the president, when uttering these things. Every sentence has come to me as a hymn from heaven. I was beside myself, bathed in tears. I tried to say something but could not utter a word. I knew the hour to leave had come and asked from the president permission to fall on my knees and pray with him that his life might be spared. And he knelt with me. But I prayed more with my tears and sobs than with words. Then I pressed his hand on my lips and bathed it with my tears and with a heart filled with unspeakable desolation I bade him adieu.

"The last time for the hour was fast approaching when he

was to fall by the hand of an assassin for his nation's sake.

"President Lincoln could not cross the Jordan, but Lincoln was on top of Mount Pisgah, and though he had fervently prayed that he might cross the Jordan, and enter with his people into the land of promise after which he had so often sighed, he was not to see his request granted. The answer has come from heaven. You will not cross the Jordan, and you will not enter the promised land, which is there so near. You must die for your nation's sake. The lips, the heart and the soul of the new Moses were still repeating the sublime words. The judgments of the Lord are true and righteous altogether; when the assassin Booth murdered him on the 14th of April, 1865, at 10 o'clock p. m."

(Signed) COLONEL R. F. BAIR, Ogden, Utah.

WOODMEN PAY A TRIBUTE TO THE DEAD

Fitting tributes to the dead members of the lodge were paid by the Weber camp lodge No. 74, Woodmen of the World, at their memorial services held yesterday.

Among the impressive ceremonies was the unveiling of seven monuments over the graves of Joseph W. Bailey, Lafe Farley, George McFarland, Paul Van Komen, Joseph W. Williams, Albert Seaton and Albert Herrick.

In the morning a committee of lodgemen visited the Mountain View cemetery and decorated the graves of the fifteen members lying buried there. In the afternoon the members, degree team, unveiling officers and aides and band lined up at Twenty-fourth street and Washington avenue. After a parade about the city all marched to the Ogden City cemetery where the graves were decorated in the Woodmen plot, and the monuments erected over those dying with in the past year were unveiled. The memorial address was delivered by T. D. Johnson.

With practically the entire membership lined up, the procession was an impressive one. Each member carried wreaths or bouquets to be placed on the graves.

Mr. Johnson's address in part was as follows:

"We are assembled today to unveil and dedicate the monuments erected to mark the graves of those from whose hands the axe of the Woodman has fallen since we last gathered here; to place flowers on the graves of our departed brothers, as a token that we still remember them, and to remind ourselves that we, too, shall soon take our places among them."

"To those whose monuments we unveil, and whose graves we decorate, it matters not what we shall do or say. Though I shall call aloud the names, they will not hear; though the ones they loved best in all the world shall lie prostrate on their graves and whisper loving words, they will not answer them."

"What a monster is death. All beauty and loveliness fade and wither before his glance; no goodness nor purity protects from his embrace; there is no might nor power that can stay his ruthless hand, and all the wealth in the world cannot buy from him a respite of one little hour."

"And, then, what a leveler death is of men. The wealthiest man whose grave is here is not today one whit richer than the poorest widow whose last narrow home is not far away. He left—his wealth; she—her poverty. The rich and poor, the high and low, the young and old, lie in their graves on equal terms."

That immortal document, the Declaration of Independence, declares that all men are created equal. It is true that all men at birth are equally helpless, equally dependent upon others for care and protection, for life itself. So in death all men are equally helpless, equally dependent on others even for sepulchre, and all the care and protection of others cannot save. Whatever may be the inequalities in the lives of men in this world, it is a momentous truth that we come into the world and leave it on equal terms."

"Naked came I out of my mother's womb and naked shall I return thither."

"Do you believe in immortality? Do you believe that men have immortal spirits, and that somewhere in the universe of God our dead brothers still live separate and apart from the bodies which we have buried here? Do you believe that somehow, sometime, they shall rise again from the earth where we have buried them, with that same inscrutable power which with same recurring year awakens dead nature from the death of winter, and makes the grass alive and covers the bare trees with foliage? Or are you without hope of such a glorious possibility, and in the silence of the tomb see an eternal sleep?"

"It is not my purpose to discuss these questions with you today. I prefer to present a view in which believer and unbeliever, Christian and agnostic, may stand on common ground and all agree. Whether we live beyond the grave as sentient, conscious beings, or whether death is an eternal sleep, it is a glorious truth that we live though dead, that every life is immortal, and will continue in the life of the race as long as the weakest and humblest of us will have a measure of immortality, though dead, for our works do follow after us."

"Though these, our brothers, may be sleeping an eternal sleep, think you they are altogether dead? Is it not true that their dead hands are still at work for those they loved—in the protection they gave as members of our order?"

"In every policy of life insurance held for the benefit of loved ones a man projects himself beyond the grave, and in that he accumulates for the protection of wife and children against want when he is gone, he is seeking for immortality."

"In responding to the impulse of

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his heart to safeguard the interest and welfare of those dependent upon him, every husband and father, though dead, still lives; he lives in the opportunities and happiness of his children, and in the comfort and contentment of his wife, and he shall continue to live as they shall transmit to other lives what he, by his care and forethought, made possible in their lives. And thus his life will go on forever.

"Did you ever consider that Washington and the patriots of the revolution down to the humblest private, still live—live in the life of our country its freedom, its liberty and its glory."

"Will not every soldier of the civil war live in the life of a united country under a common flag as long as our nation shall endure? Is it possible that the life of Abraham Lincoln, his influence and example will ever die as long as men cherish liberty and slaves love freedom?"

"I do not know what you think of the Christ. You may believe that he was the son of God sent to redeem men; that he died and rose again, as it is written; or you may believe the story of his life, his miracles, his death and resurrection, only myths woven about his name. Be that as it may, you do know that he lived, taught and died; you know that for nearly two thousand years his life has continued and impressed itself upon millions of lives. Who will deny that Jesus Christ has attained an im-

perishable immortality in the life of the race?"

"And so every man who has given the world a great thought, a precept of right living, or added to the sum of human knowledge, or who by discovery or invention has supplied the necessities or increased the comforts of mankind, has by that act secured for himself immortality."

"It may not be given to this world, or to be a part in any great movement that shall deeply impress itself upon the course of human history, yet however humble we cannot escape the responsibilities of life, or avoid contributing something to the life of the race. It may be great or small, good or bad, something it must be whether we will or not."

FROM THE OCEAN TO THE LAKES

A ship canal that would connect the Atlantic ocean with the great lakes has often been suggested, and doubtless is one of the great engineering feats of the future. The difficulties are not so great as those encountered in constructing the Panama canal. The benefits that would accrue are incalculable. Chicago and several other inland cities would virtually be seaports. The advantages that would come to the Middle West would be immense. Senator Townsend of Washington has a resolution directing the President to negotiate with Canada and Great Britain for a cooperative improvement of the water-

ways in common between this country and Canada. This resolution has been reported favorably to the senate.

The ship canal would require dredging in the St. Lawrence river and a further development of the Welland canal, or perhaps a new ditch in the place of this one. The cost would be possibly as much as \$200,000,000, but it is said that this weight could be carried alone by the power development that could be made along the way. Already boats of fourteen feet draft take the proposed route; consequently the engineering problems are easily solved.

Canada is considering a route through Georgian bay and the Ottawa river and another from Lake Huron to Lake Erie, thence through an enlarged Welland canal, or by a route across to Lake Ontario and finally down the St. Lawrence to about Ogdensburg, where a stretch would be taken by canal. Because Canada is likely to build this canal, it is advisable for this country to share in its construction in order that it could have greater benefits from it after it is built. Otherwise the country would be at a decided disadvantage.

Opposition to such a canal would come from transcontinental railroads because of the effect it would have on rates. But the railroads would share eventually in the general increase in business. Nevertheless the rates would have to be revised to conform with rates where there is water competition. Seaport cities would

also object, but they would also share in the general benefits. Assuredly such a project will be accomplished sooner or later, and Chicago eventually may be a bigger town than New York—Anaconda Standard.

REDWOOD FIBER FOR PAPER PULP

The Federal Forest Service has been carrying on experiments to determine the value of California woods for the manufacture of pulp for paper, says the Pioneer Western Lumberman. The woods used have in nearly all cases been those which are inferior quality for lumber. The notable exception is redwood. With this species the experiments have been conducted with a view to finding use for the immense quantity of mill waste in the form of slabs and odds and ends. Redwood fibers are much longer than those of standard pulpwood (spruce) and their great strength is an important factor. The results indicate that the commercial possibilities for redwood mill waste in the form of tough, strong paper are very great and it is more than likely that the exploitation of this material will become a reality in the near future.

Other woods tested are white and red fir and lodgepole pine. The wood of the fir is light in color and comparatively free from materials which are not readily reduced in the chemical processes which have been developed to the highest standards of efficiency. The fibers are long and can't lower one without breaking it.

strong and the pulp is easily bleached for commercial use. The paper produced is in every way equal to that of the spruce, which is used so largely in the manufacture of pulp in this country. A very good grade of mechanical pulp is made from lodgepole pine. All of these species occur in quantities sufficient for the establishment of large plants, whose operations will cover long periods.

An attractive feature to be considered in connection with pulp and paper operations on the coast is the large amount of water power available. The district forester in San Francisco has received several applications for the sale of pulpwood. Some good chances have already been worked up and others will be investigated thoroughly during the coming summer—Humboldt Standard.

THE PROPER THING.

"She—We're getting up a poverty party. All the guests are to appear in ragged clothes."

"He—That's an entertaining idea. I suppose you'll have ragtime music."

HORSY.

"Why is a horse that can't hold its head up like next Wednesday?"

"Don't know."

"Why, because its neck's weak?"

"Oh, I heard that joke about a week back."—Sacred Heart Review.

Records are fragile things; you